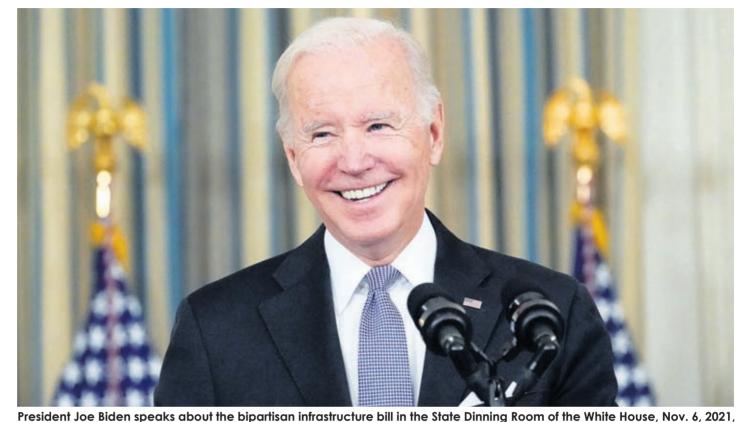
Biden hopes \$1T infrastructure bill can boost his popularity

By JOSH BOAK Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Joe Biden prepared to sign his \$1 trillion infrastructure deal into law Monday on the White House lawn, with a smattering of Republican lawmakers on hand for what could be one of the last shows of bipartisanship ahead of the 2022 midterm elections. The president hopes to use the law to build back his popularity, which has taken a hit amid rising inflation and the inability to fully shake the public health and economic risks from COVID-19. "My message to the American people is: America is moving again," Biden said in prepared remarks released ahead of the ceremony.

"And your life is going to change for the better."



in Washington.

Continued on Page 2

Associated Press





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Biden hopes \$1T infrastructure bill can boost his popularity

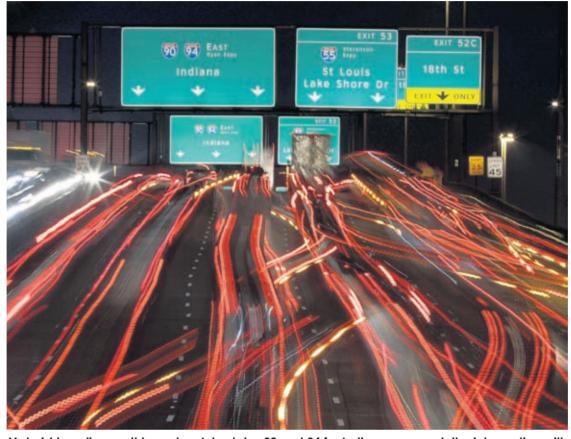
Continued from Front

With the bipartisan deal, the president had to choose between his promise of fostering national unity and a commitment to transformative change. The final measure whittled down much of his initial vision to invest in roads, bridges, water systems, broadband, ports, electric vehicles and the power grid. Yet the administration hopes to sell the new law as a success that bridged partisan divides and will elevate the country with clean drinking water, high-speed internet and a shift away from fossil

"Too often in Washington - the reason we don't get things done is because we insist on getting everything we want," Biden said in his prepared remarks. "With this law, we focused on getting things done. I ran for president because the only way to move our country forward is through compromise and consensus."

Biden will get outside Washington to sell the plan more broadly in coming days.

He intends go to New Hampshire on Tuesday to visit a bridge on the state's "red list" for repair, and he will go to Detroit on Wednesday for a stop at General Motors' electric vehicle assembly plant, while other officials also fan out across the country. The president went to the Port of Baltimore last week to highlight how the supply chain investments from the law could limit inflation and strengthen supply chains, a key concern of voters who are dealing with higher prices. "We see this as is an opportunity because we know that the president's agenda is quite popular," White House press secretary Jen Psaki said Monday



Motorist traveling southbound on Interstates 90 and 94 for Indiana approach the intersection with Interstate 55 for St. Louis, Dec. 21, 2017, in Chicago. **Associated Press**

before the signing. The outreach to voters can move "beyond the legislative process to talk about how this is going to help them. And we're hoping that's going to have an impact." Biden held off on signing the hard-fought infrastructure deal after it passed on Nov. 5 until legislators would be back from a congressional recess and could join in a splashy bipartisan event. On Sunday night before the signing, the White House announced Mitch Landrieu, the former New Orleans mayor, would help manage and coordinate the implementation of the infrastructure spending.

The gathering Monday on the White House lawn included governors and mayors of both parties and labor and business leaders. In addition to House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, the guest list included Republicans such as Ohio Sen. Rob Portman, Louisiana Sen. Bill Cassidy, Maine Sen. Susan Collins, New York Rep. Tom Reed, Alaska Rep. Don Young and Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan.

In order to achieve a bipartisan deal, the president had to cut back his initial ambition to spend \$2.3 trillion on infrastructure by more than half. The bill that becomes law on Monday in reality includes about \$550 billion in new spending over 10 years, since some of the expenditures in the package were already planned.

The agreement ultimately got support from 19 Senate Republicans, including Senate GOP leader Mitch Mc-Connell. Thirteen House Republicans also voted for the infrastructure bill. An angry Donald Trump, the former president, issued a statement attacking "Old Crow" McConnell and other Republicans for cooperating

on "a terrible Democrat So-

cialist Infrastructure Plan." Historians, economists and engineers interviewed by The Associated Press welcomed Biden's efforts. But they stressed that \$1 trillion was not nearly enough to overcome the government's failure for decades to maintain and upgrade the country's infrastructure. The politics essentially forced a trade-off in terms of potential impact not just on the climate but on the ability to outpace the rest of the world this century and remain the dominant economic power.

"We've got to be sober here about what our infrastructure gap is in terms of a level of investment and go into this eyes wide open, that this is not going to solve our infrastructure problems across the nation," said David Van Slyke, dean of the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University.

Biden also tried unsuccessfully to tie the infrastructure package to passage of a broader package of \$1.85 trillion in proposed spending on families, health care and a shift to renewable energy that could help address climate change. That measure has yet to gain sufficient support from the narrow Democratic majorities in the Senate and House. Biden continues to work to appease Democratic skeptics of the broader package such as Sen. Joe Manchin of West Virginia, while also holding on to the most liberal branches of his party.

Texas Sen. Ted Cruz expressed concern during a Fox News interview Sunday that Republican support for the infrastructure law could ultimately lead Democrats to rally and back the second package

"They gave Joe Biden a political win," Cruz said of his fellow Republicans. "He will now go across the country touting, look at this big bipartisan win. And that additional momentum, unfortunately, makes it more likely that they whip their Democrats into shape and pass some multitrillion-dollar spending bill on top of this that will include...

The haggling over infrastructure has shown that Biden can still bring toaether Democrats and Republicans, even as tensions continue to mount over the Jan. 6 assault on the U.S. Capitol by supporters of Donald Trump who falsely believe that Biden was not legitimately elected president. Yet the result is a product that might not meet the existential threat of climate change or the transformative legacy of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, whose portrait hangs in Biden's Oval Office.



Biden to protect Native American heritage site, boost safety

BV DARLENE SUPERVILLE Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Joe Biden sought to showcase his commitment to Native Americans on Monday by announcing a step to help improve public safety and justice for their communities, which experience violent crime at rates more than double the national average.

The administration also announced plans to pursue a 20-year ban on oil and gas drilling in Chaco Canyon, an ancient Native American heritage site in northwestern New Mexico.

"We have to continue to stand up for the dignity and sovereignty of tribal nations," Biden said at a White House summit of tribal nations, the first since 2016. The two-day summit was being held virtually because of the COVID-19 pandemic, which has affected Native Americans and Alaska Natives at disproportionate rates.

Biden signed an executive order tasking the Justice, Homeland Security and Interior departments with working together to help combat human trafficking and crime on Native lands. They will work to strengthen participation in Amber Alert programs and national training programs for federal agents, and appoint a liaison who can speak with family members and to advocates.



President Joe Biden signs an executive order to help improve public safety and justice for Native Americans during a Tribal Nations Summit during Native American Heritage Month, in the South Court Auditorium on the White House campus, Monday, Nov. 15, 2021, in Washington. With the President from left are first lady Jill Biden, Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas, Health and Human Services Secretary Xavier Becerra, Attorney General Merrick Garland and Interior Secretary Deb Haaland.

American Indians and Alaska Natives are more than twice as likely to be victims of a violent crime and Native American women are at least two times more likely to be raped or sexually assaulted compared to other races, according to the Association on American Indian Affairs.

On the cultural front, the administration announced a long-sought action to protect Chaco Canyon, a national park and UNESCO World Heritage site northwest of Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Secretary Interior Deb Haaland said the Bureau of Land Management will begin to study the possible withdrawal for a period of 20 years from federal lands within a 10-mile (16-kilometer) radius of Chaco Culture National Historical Park. Such a move would bar new federal oil and gas leasing and development on those lands. Those lands will not be eligible for leasing while the study is underway, though past administrations had already opted to impose the buffer administratively.

Associated Press

Environmentalists and some tribes have complained that such a move is temporary and that permanent protections are needed. But it isn't so simple; while some tribes have fought for protections, the Navajo Nation, which has more to lose by curbing oil and gas, has asked for a smaller radius around the site, an ancient center of Pueblo culture.

"Chaco Canyon is a sacred place that holds deep meaning for the Indigenous peoples whose ancestors lived, worked, and thrived in that high desert community," said Haaland, the first Native American to lead the Interior Department, the powerful federal agency that has wielded influence over U.S. tribes for generations. Haaland is a member of the Laguna Pueblo.

"Now is the time to consider more enduring protections for the living landscape that is Chaco, so that we can pass on this rich cultural legacy to future generations," she said. The secretary represented New Mexico, where Chaco Canyon is located, in the U.S. House of Representatives before she was narrowly confirmed by the Senate to take over at Interior.

First lady Jill Biden, an English teacher, addressed the summit on the importance of preserving Native Ianguages. Vice President Kamala Harris was set to speak Tuesday, the final day.

The tribal nations summit coincides with National Native American Heritage Month and is being hosted by the White House for the first time, with leaders from more than 570 tribes in the United States expected to participate. The summit was not held during the Trump administration; past conferences took place at the Interior Department.

Since taking office in January, Biden has taken several steps that the White House says demonstrate his commitment to tribal nations.

Trump ally Bannon taken into custody on contempt charges

By MICHAEL BALSAMO and afternoon. The 67-year-**MARY CLARE JALONICK Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) Steve Bannon, a longtime ally of former President Donald Trump, surrendered to federal authoricontempt charges after defying a subpoena from a House committee investigating January's insurrection at the U.S. Capitol. Bannon was taken into custody Monday morning and is expected to appear in court later in the

old was indicted on Friday on two counts of criminal contempt - one for refusing to appear for a congressional deposition and the other for refusing to provide documents in re- a possible indictment. ties on Monday to face sponse to the committee's Officials in both Democrat-

> The indictment came as a second expected witness, former White House Chief of Staff Mark Meadows, defied his own subpoena from the committee on Friday and as Trump has escalated his legal battles to

withhold documents and testimony about the insurrection.If the House votes to hold Meadows in contempt, that recommendation would also be sent to the Justice Department for

ic and Republican administrations have been held in contempt by Congress, but criminal indictments for contempt are exceedingly rare.

The indictment against Bannon comes after a slew of Trump administration of-



Former White House strategist Steve Bannon arrives at the FBI Washington Field Office, Monday, Nov., 15, 2021, in Washington.

Associated Press

ficials – including Bannon ment inquiry. President defied requests and demands from Congress over the past five years with little consequence, including during an impeach-

Barack Obama's administration also declined to charge two of its officials who defied congressional demands.



Alex Jones liable for defamation in Sandy Hook 'hoax' case

By DAVE COLLINS **Associated Press**

Infowars host and conspiracy theorist Alex Jones was found liable Monday for damages in lawsuits brought by parents of children killed in the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting over Jones' claims that the massacre was a hoax. Judge Barbara Bellis took the rare step of defaulting Jones in the defamation lawsuits for his and his companies' "failure to produce critical material information that the plaintiffs needed to prove their claims." The default means the judge found in favor of the parents and will hold a hearing on how much damages he should pay.

Lawyers for the parents claimed Jones and his companies, including Infowars and Free Speech Systems, violated court rules by failing to turn over documents to them, including internal company documents showing how, and if, Jones and Infowars profited from talking about the school shooting and other mass shootings.

A message seeking comment was sent to Jones' lawyers. They have denied violating court rules on document disclosure and have asked that Bellis be removed from the case, alleging she has not been impartial.

Shortly after the judge's de-



In this Sept. 5, 2018, file photo, Infowars host and conspiracy theorist Alex Jones speaks outside of the Dirksen building on Capitol Hill in Washington.

Associated Press

cision, Jones went on the air on his show deriding the legal process surrounding the case.

"These individuals, again, are not allowing me to have a jury trial because they know the things they said I supposedly did didn't happen," he said. "They know they don't have a case for damages. And so the judge is saying you are guilty of damages, now a jury decides how guilty you are. It's not guilty until proven guilty."

The ruling has the same outcome as a jury determining the case in favor of the families. The jury will now determine the damages.

Twenty first-graders and six educators were killed in the December 2012 shooting. The gunman, 20-yearold Adam Lanza, killed his mother at their Newtown home before the shooting, and killed himself at the school as police arrived, officials said.

The shooting was portrayed on Jones' Infowars show as a hoax involving actors aimed at increasing gun control. Jones has since acknowledged the school shooting did occur.

Families of the victims said they have been subjected to harassment and death threats from Jones' followers because of the hoax conspiracy pushed on Infowars. They sued Jones and his companies for defamation and infliction of emotional distress. The hearing on damages before a jury is expected to be held next year.

"What's clear from Judge Bellis' ruling is that Alex Jones and the Jones defendants have engaged in a long, continuous course of misconduct in this case designed to prevent the plaintiffs from getting evidence about Mr. Jones' business and about his motives for

publishing lies about them and their families," said Christopher Mattei, a lawyer for relatives of eight of the victims who sued Jones in Connecticut.

Messages were left for parents of some of the children killed in the shooting.

A Texas judge recently issued similar rulings against Jones in three defamation lawsuits brought by Sandy Hook families in that state, finding Jones liable for damages after defaulting him and his companies for not turning over documents. Hearings on damages also were ordered.

In one of the lawsuits, a Texas judge in 2019 ordered Jones to pay \$100,000 in legal fees and refused to dismiss the suit. And a jury in Wisconsin awarded \$450,000 to one of the parents in his lawsuit against conspiracy theorist writers, not including Jones, who claimed the massacre never happened.

In the three Connecticut lawsuits, Jones previously was sanctioned for violating numerous orders to turn over documents and for an angry outburst on his web show against Mattei. A judge barred Jones from filing a motion to the dismiss the case — a ruling that was upheld after being appealed all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court, which declined to hear Jones' appeal in April.



of voting more than once in the same election.

Donald "Kirk" Hartle is expected to pay a \$2,000 fine and receive the equivalent of one year of probation when he's sentenced, according to a plea agreement filed Monday ahead diate comment.

Hartle's attorney, David Chesnoff, on Monday called the plea deal fair and said Hartle accepted responsibility for his actions. Through a spokesman, state Attorney General Aaron Ford declined imme-

Vegas man to admit voting twice in **November 2020 election**

The state Republican Party featured Hartle's account as an example of widespread voter fraud in Nevada, where now-President Joe Biden, a Democrat, defeated then-President Donald Trump by 33,596 of 1.4 million votes cast, or

Records showed a ballot for Rosemarie Hartle was submitted with a signature that matched Clark County voter records.

State and federal courts in Nevada and other states rejected dozens of election challenges by Republi-

cans and Trump's presidential campaign, including claims of widespread voter fraud. Ford, a Democrat, has called voter fraud rare and vowed that his office would not tolerate it.

In an earlier Nevada case, two years of probation for his guilty plea to one felony charge of voting twice — in Benton, Arkansas and in Las Vegas — during the 2016 presidential election.

At least five other people have been convicted in Nevada since 2011 of registration fraud during voter recruitment, and one woman pleaded guilty to trying to vote twice in 2012.

When Hartle was charged, he became the only person currently being prosecuted on voter fraud allegations a 53-year-old man was sen- in Nevada. Nevada Sectenced last July to up to retary of State Barbara Cegavske, a Republican, said in April that reviews of election fraud claims delivered to her office by the state GOP in March found that some cases were already under investigation but that most were baseless or inaccurately interpreted.



UK says Liverpool taxi blast was a bomb, raises threat level

By JILL LAWLESS and DANICA KIRKA Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — British authorities raised the country's threat level to its secondhighest rung on Monday, after police said a blast in a taxi outside a Liverpool hospital was caused by a homemade bomb.

Investigators said they were treating Sunday's explosion — which killed the suspected bombmaker and injured the cab driver — as a terrorist incident, but that the motive was unclear.

The Joint Terrorism Analysis Centre raised the U.K. threat level from substantial — meaning an attack is likely — to severe, meaning it is highly likely, following the U.K.'s second fatal incident in a month. Conservative lawmaker David Amess was stabbed to death in October in what police said was an act of terrorism.

Prime Minister Boris Johnson condemned the "sickening attack" at Liverpool Women's Hospital and told reporters that the British people "will never be cowed by terrorism."

"We will never give in to those who seek to divide us with senseless acts of violence," he said.

The male passenger in a taxi was killed and the driver injured when a blast ripped through the vehicle



An armed police officer holds a breaching shotgun, used to blast the hinges off a door, at an address in Rutland Avenue in Sefton Park, after an explosion at the Liverpool Women's Hospital in Liverpool, England, Monday, Nov. 15, 2021.

Associated Press

as it pulled up outside the hospital on Sunday morning. Russ Jackson, the head of Counterterrorism Policing in northwest England, said the explosion was caused by "the ignition of an explosive device" that was brought into the vehicle by the passenger.

Three men in their 20s were arrested elsewhere in the city Sunday under the Terrorism Act and a fourth was detained on Monday. All are believed to be "associates" of the dead passenger, police said.

Police said they had identified the suspected attacker, but they did not release his name. Britain's Press Association news agency and other media reported that he had not been on the radar of the security services.

Suspicions about a motive for the explosion have been aroused by the timing — just before 11 a.m. on Remembrance Sunday, the moment when people across Britain hold services in memory of those killed in

Jackson said investigators had not found a link to remembrance events "but it is a line of inquiry we are pursuing."

"Although the motivation for this incident is yet to be understood, given all the circumstances, it has been declared a terrorist incident," he said at a press

He said the passenger had been picked up by the cab a 10-minute drive away and asked to be taken to the hospital, where the explosion occurred. The driver, named by local media as David Perry, managed to escape from the car. He was treated in the hospital and released.

Police said officers had searched two addresses in the city linked to the passenger and found "significant items" at one of them. Officers performed a controlled explosion "as a precaution" as part of the investigation.

Liverpool Mayor Joanne Anderson said the taxi driver had locked the doors of his cab so the passenger couldn't leave. Police did not confirm that account.

"The taxi driver, in his heroic efforts, has managed to divert what could have been an absolutely awful disaster at the hospital," Anderson told the BBC.

The prime minister also said the driver appeared to have behaved "with incredible presence of mind and bravery."

Nick Aldworth, a former senior terrorism investigator in Britain, said the taxi appeared to have sustained "a lot of fire damage with very little blast damage." He said "whatever was in

that vehicle was either a low yield, or didn't work properly, or possibly an incendiary. So I think it's very much open to debate at the moment about what has happened."

Sudan doctors say 2 more protesters die from gunshot wounds

KHARTOUM, Sudan (AP) — Two more Sudanese protesters died in the hospital from wounds after being shot during mass protests against last month's military coup, a doctors union said Monday.

That raises the death toll from Saturday's protests to seven, all but one from gun- Thousands of pro-democ-Committee said. More than 200 others were wounded when security forces used live ammunition and tear gas to disperse protesters in the capital city of Khartoum and its twin city of Omdurman, the committee said.

Sudanese police denied using live ammunition, saying its forces only resorted to tear gas to disperse demonstrators allegedly attacking police stations and vehicles. They said at least 39 policemen were woundprotests.

shots, the Sudan Doctors racy protesters took to the tests also in Khartoum, Both streets across Sudan Saturday to rally against the military's takeover last month. The Oct. 25 takeover upended a fragile planned transition to democratic rule, more than two years after a popular uprising forced the removal of long-

time autocrat Omar al-Bashir and his Islamist government.

The committee said the deaths include 13-year-old Remaaz Hatim al-Atta, who was shot in the head in front of her ed in Saturday's clashes family's home in Khartoum, and Omar Adam who was shot in his neck during prowere shot on Oct. 25 and pronounced dead in the past 24 hours, it said.

Saturday's demonstrations came as the military has tightened its grip on power, appointing a new Sovereign Council. The council, chaired by Gen. Abdel-



People protest in Khartoum, Sudan, Saturday, Nov. 13, 2021. **Associated Press**

Fattah Burhan, held its first democracy meeting Sunday, and said in a statement that a civilian government would be formed in the coming days. Cracks, meanwhile, started to surface among the pro-

movement over a call by a group of political parties and movements to return to the precoup power-sharing deal between the protesters and the generals.

Shell wants to move headquarters amid cleaner energy shift

By DANICA KIRKA and MIKE CORDER **Associated Press**

LONDON (AP) — Royal Dutch Shell proposed moving its headquarters from the Netherlands to the United Kingdom and streamlining its structure Monday in hopes of making it easier to move forward in a world transitioning away from a dependence on fossil fuels. The company, which has been incorporated in the U.K. with Dutch tax residency and dual class shares since 2005, said it wanted to move to a more conventional structure to make the company more competitive as it seeks to meet the challenges of shifting toward cleaner energy.

Dutch officials said they "unpleasantly were prised."

"The government deeply regrets that Shell wants to move its head office to the United Kingdom," Dutch Economic Affairs and Climate Minister Stef Blok said. "We are in talks with the top of Shell about the implications of this move for jobs, critical investment decisions and sustainability." He said the company had assured the government that "the personnel consequences of this decision will be limited to the relocation of a number of executive, board positions from the Netherlands to the United Kingdom."

Shell said that while it was proud of its Dutch heri-



The Shell logo at a petrol station in London on Jan. 20, 2016.

tage, the changes mean it would no longer use "Royal Dutch" in its name.

"The simplification will normalize our share structure under the tax and legal jurisdictions of a single country and make us more competitive," Shell Chairman Andrew Mackenzie said in a statement. "As a result, Shell will be better positioned to seize opportunities and play a leading role in the energy transition."

Shareholders will be asked to vote on the measure at a meeting Dec. 10.

The proposal hints at the complications Shell and other energy giants face as they plan for the day when demand for oil fades and major economies turn to electric-powered cars. Chief Executive Ben van Beurden has made it clear in the past that he intends to have the company remain competitive in a world that gets more of its energy from renewable sources.

His comments came amid an increased focus on the future of the industry after the 2015 Paris climate agreement led governments to commit to tougher action on emissions and shareholders push for more long-term plans.

Shifting from a company that makes fossil fuels to net-zero emissions businesses will involve decreasing investment in one part of the firm and increasing it in another, said David Elmes, an energy expert at the Warwick Business School. Shell has been challenged,

meanwhile, by activist investment firm Third Point to split into a legacy fossil **Associated Press**

fuel company that returns funds to shareholders from producing oil and a netzero firm that raises its own capital from markets, Elmes said.

"Shell have replied that it's both the funds from declining fossil fuel activities and their transferrable capabilities that will allow them to be successful in making the transition as a single firm," Elmes said. "They have resisted Third Point's call to split the company."

At a time of pressure, the company is proposing more clarity. Shell's dual share structure is a legacy of a 2005 merger that created the company as it is known today. The structure makes it less clear to investors what they were buying and who they could expect payments from — or at least more complicated than many similar firms.

"Unifying the share structure is a step to make this whole process of transforming the company more transparent and simpler for shareholders," Elmes said.

There are other pressures as well. Shell lost a landmark case brought by climate activists in the Netherlands earlier this year. The Hague District Court ordered the company to cut its carbon emissions by a net 45% by 2030 compared with 2019 levels, a decision activists hailed as a victory for the planet.

Peer de Rijk of Friends of the Earth Netherlands said Shell's changes would have no effect on the case. Shell said in July it was appealing the ruling.

"This news has no negative consequences for Milieudefensie's climate case against Shell. In any case, this lawsuit will remain with the Dutch courts," De Rijk said.

"Rather, moving to the United Kingdom opens up a new front, including for future cases," he added. Shell is not the first multinational company to turn its back on the Netherlands. Last year, consumer goods giant Unilever — owner of household brands such as Dove, Lipton teas and Ben & Jerry's ice cream — said it was ending its Anglo-Dutch corporate structure and would be headquartered in London.



Passengers arrive at the Hamad International Airport in Doha, Qatar on June 12, 2017.

Associated Press

Associated Press CANBERRA, Australia (AP) A group of seven Aus-

tralia-based women plan to sue Qatar's government for being forced to under-

Women travelers to sue Qatar over 'invasive' body searches

examinations at Doha's international airport after an abandoned newborn was found in a trash can there last year, their lawyer said on Monday. The Australian government at the time condemned Qatari authorities' treatment of the women who were subjected to the examinations at Hamad International Airport on Oct. 2, 2020, after Qatar Airways Flight 908 to Sydney was delayed. The seven were among 13

were "invasively examined" on the tarmac, said their lawyer Damian Sturzaker, from Sydney-based Marque Lawyers.

compensation for the fact that they were effected at the time and continue to suffer," Sturzaker said. "They have problems dealina with what was a very traumatic episode."

Nine or 10 other flights out of Doha were similarly delayed while women pas-

go invasive gynecological women on the flight who sengers were searched, he added. Sturzaker said he was not aware of passengers on other flights taking legal action against the Qataris over the episode, "What they want is first of all for which the Qatar government has apologized.

> "They want an apology from the Qatar government for their treatment and what they want and have been asking for quite a long time is that procedures are put in place so that this won't happen again," Sturzaker added.



Signs abounded that deadly Ecuador prison attack was coming

By ALLEN PANCHANA and GONZALO SOLANO Associated Press

GUAYAQUIL, Ecuador (AP)

— The signs that an attack was imminent inside the largest prison in Ecuador's coastal city of Guayaquil could not have been clearer.

There had been talk among inmates of the Litoral Penitentiary for days that a group was going to attack another. Then, early Friday morning, police arrested three men trying to smuggle two rifles, five handguns, three grenades, sticks of dynamite and hundreds of rounds of ammunition into the lockup.

Hours later police announced what the prisoners inside Litoral already knew: The three men detained belonged to a prison gang that was stockpiling weapons.

What happened hours later confirmed there were many more weapons already inside. Late Friday, a to be true. brutal attack was launched and clashes among rival gangs lasted for hours into early Saturday. When the dust settled and authorities had regained control, they found at least 68 inmates dead and 25 wounded in what was only the most recent massacre in Ecuador's troubled penitentiary system. So far this year, at least 334 inmates have died in different clashes in the Guayaquil prison, including 119 inmates in an attack in September.

The Associated Press contacted a prisoner in one of the 12 cell blocks — or pavilions — that make up the prison to hear firsthand what happened before and during the deadly confrontation, and how gangs operate inside the lockup. AP confirmed the identity of the inmate, who asked not to be identified for fear of being killed. He has served five years of a 25-year sentence for murder but says he is not a member of any gang and tries to stay neutral.

In the days before the attack, inmates had already heard that an attack was coming and that the target



Soldiers walk out of the Litoral penitentiary, after deadly riots broke out inside the prison in Guayaquil, Ecuador, Sunday, Nov. 14, 2021.

Associated Press

would be Pavilion Two, the "transitory" pavilion where new inmates arrive and are held until space is found to accommodate them, he said. The rumors turned out

The inmate said the shooting began at 7 p.m. Friday and he hid under his cement bunk in a cell of about eight square meters (about 85 square feet) that held 12 inmates. He asked that his cell block not be identified to prevent gang members from finding out who he is.

For years until 2020, the Litoral Penitentiary was controlled by the "Choneros." But after the killing last year of its leader, Jorge Luis Zambrano, an internal dispute began over control of the gang. Authorities consider factions of the gang responsible for the massacres inside the prison.

Prison officials talk of at least six factions: the "Lobos," "JR," "Tiguerones," the "Fito," "Samir" and "Ben10." Police have not said which group was behind Friday's attack. They say some gangs have connections with Mexico's Sinaloa and Jalisco New Generation drug cartels.

"Here you sleep with one eye open," the inmate said. And now, he said, word is spreading inside the prison of attacks on other pavilions in a few days. "They

want to break you ... and gain control of the drug-trafficking routes and micro-trafficking," or local drug sales.

At the Litoral Penitentiary, he said, "everything is arranged with massacres, extortion. If you don't cooperate you die, they decide who lives, who dies, who gets rich."

The Litoral is designed for 5,000 inmates but currently holds more than 8,500. The arrested leaders of Ecuador's main drug trafficking gangs are held there. They are disputing not just international drug trafficking — Ecuador is a drug transit country neighboring Colombia and Peru — but local sales as well.

Pablo Arosamena, the governor of Guayas state where Guayaquil is located, recently told reporters that profits from internal drug sales in Ecuador are very high. While a kilogram brick of cocaine can be sold outside Ecuador for \$35,000, when broken down and sold to users inside Ecuador the same amount can earn up to \$100,000, he said.

Authorities say they are trying to control what goes on in the prison and, among other things, have installed a network of cellphone jammers to prevent inmates — and gang leaders — from communicating with the outside world.

But it doesn't seem to be working: AP spoke to the inmate inside Litoral using a cellphone. What they do "is useless, here we have a better signal here than outside," he said.

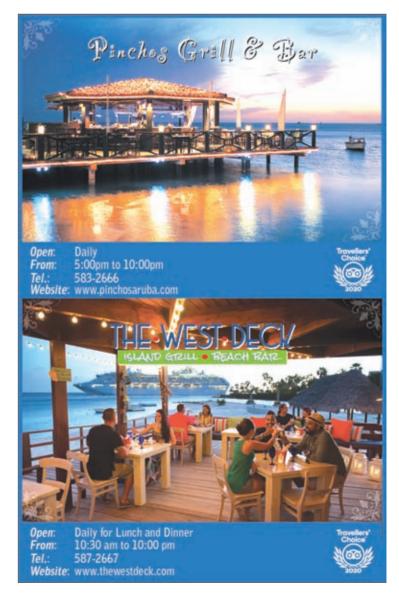
One question often asked after a massacre is how the gangs get so many weapons inside the prison.

The inmate said that there is collusion between the prisoners and guards and that weapons enter in food trucks and are sometimes even brought in by "members of the police" themselves.

"The mafia always works by squeezing the families of" people working inside the prison, he said.

Such is the control of the prisons by gangs that members sometimes even leave the prison and return bringing weapons, like the three men arrested Friday hours before the attack.

"They are emissaries of the bosses. They can leave, but they have to return because if they don't return (to the prison) they die. Here the bosses control everything," the inmate said Gen. Marco Villegas, the police's prison control delegate, said the three inmates who tried to smuggle in the weapons would have jumped a wall to get to the street where someone would be waiting for them with the guns to bring back over the wall.





Rights of Children



ORANJESTAD -November marks the start of National Children's Month, as declared by the Council of Welfare for Children (CWC). This month-long event aims to promote and spread awareness on the rights of children, considering the political and social climate they live in. In light of the National Children's Month, below are 4 rights of the child—and what adults can do to uphold them.

Every child has the right to be born well.

It is the responsibility of the parents to make sure they can provide a safe environ-

ment for their unborn child. This includes proper medical attention and care from conception, birth, and throughout childhood years in a newborn services unit or pediatric center.

Every child has the right to a wholesome family life.

The child's first learning environment and teachers are their home and family. They are entitled to be a part of a loving family that will instill ethical values and morals in them.

Every child has the right to be raised well and become contributing members of society. By raising them in a safe and loving environment, parents and guardians can shape the personalities of their young to be useful and contributing members of their respective communities when they grow older.

Every child has the right to basic needs.

The four basic needs of people outlined in the law are as follows: a balanced diet, adequate clothing, sufficient shelter, and proper healthcare. This also includes any other requirements to lead a healthy and active life.

Caha di Orgel - a divine way to cheer up the heart

ORANJESTAD - Recently, the director of the National Library of Aruba, Mrs. Astrid Britten, received a book titled: 'Kahanan di Músika: e forma divino pa alegrá kurason!'.

The book was presented to Mrs. Britten by the authors of the book, Mrs. Marilyn Alcalá-Wallé, Herta Parabirsina-Balentina, and Nidia Rosaria- Wallé, who traveled from Curacao to Aruba for this special occasion. The library added the book to its collection of the Caribiana's department Arubiana. This book provides plenty of information about the typical instrument, the Cylinder Piano, locally known as the Kaha di Orgel. The book describes the origin of the Caha di Orgel in Curacao, its makers and players, party organizers, Wiri players and their origin, folkloric dance instructors, and much more information. Those intrigued with the Caha di Orgel are welcome at the Arubiana for plenty of information.

Kaha di Òrgel platform Aruba and Curacao have a long history and common bond on the subject of the Caha di Orgel. They always supported each other in the preservation of the musical heritage of the Caha di Orgel. As part of this preservation project, a Caha di Orgel platform was launched recently in Curacao. This launch is the reason behind the courtesy visit of the book authors from Curacao to Aruba.

A Musical Peek at History Performances of the Caha di Orgel will enchant you, but there is more. The cylinder piano, was already known in England at the beginning of the 19th century. This music box spread rapidly across Europe and reached Venezuela via Italian migrants. In those days, there were intensive trading relations between Curacao and Venezuela. A native of Curacao who was staying in Venezuela at the time was Horacio Sprock. He brought the 'ka'i orgel' from Barquisimeto, Venezuela, to our country and, together with his brother Luis, started a local workshop here. The first 'ka'i orgels' of Curaçao and Aruba were made in Italy. They could be heard during the celebrations in the salons of the local elite, where they were accustomed to dancing to piano music and music for strings. Soon this music spread over the workingclass districts of Otrobanda and Punda and to the conuco, the countryside. For their celebrations, people would hire a ka'i orgel in town. Until the thirties, it was transported by means of horse and cart or a donkey, and afterwards a motorized vehicle. The ka'i orgel -a combination of the sound of a piano, kwarta, bass and guitar- was soon enriched with the rhythmic instrument of African origin, the wiri or metal scraper. In the ka'i orgel tradition of Curação, Aruba and Bonaire, these two instruments belong inseparably to each other.

More information about the Caha di Orgel of Aruba is to be seen and heard at YouTube: Tesoro Arubano where a series of 10 short documentaries is presented dealing with cultural historical topics of Aruba among others the Caha di Orgel.







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Amulets and rituals

Episode CXXX-130

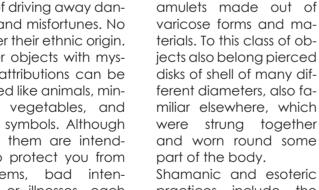
NOORD - It is a wellknown fact that in primitive civilizations objects that were used for adornment and charms do not intrinsically differ from one on other. Whether a given object is to be considered solely as an ornament or simultaneously or exclusively as an amulet, depends on a variety of circumstances, and must be examined afresh in each individual case. Generally speaking, an ornament seldom or never has only an aesthetic value for the wearer.

Amulets are still very present in today's societies. Despite being objects related to ancient myths, the belief in the power of these talismans remains strong in many people, who use them with the



aim of driving away dangers and misfortunes. No matter their ethnic origin. Power objects with mystical attributions can be shaped like animals, minerals, vegetables, and other symbols. Although all of them are intended to protect you from problems, bad intentions, or illnesses, each and all contains a specialized purpose.

Our native had "contras"



practices include the use of a ritual stick. The stick is an instrument of invocation of spirits and serves primarily to direct spiritual energy. Healing energy can be mentally transmitted through the stick, into the environment or onto an individual in need of heeling. Prayer and intention can be broadcast to the spirit world. It may serve as a divination tool, extraction aide, and a purifying device.

The Shamans stick or wand dates back to prehistoric times. Some of the first depictions of a stick come from Egypt, in the hands of the Pharaohs. The Greek god Hermes is depicted with a caduceus, a winged stick or staff with two snakes coiled around it. In Celtic mythology, the so-called "Triple" or "Triadic" Goddesses are often seen or depicted with sticks.

Longer sticks are considered as a wizard or Shamans staff. A staff serves as a tool and frequently a symbol of status and power. Some staffs are adorned with talismans and feather, carved with various patterns and designs; we find that a smooth surface with no carving produces the greatest and most effective flow of air energies. The staff is generally a highly personal piece of equipment - often one he makes for himself - and will generally reflect his personality in appearance and function. Using another wizard's staff may be dangerous or even impossible – some users believe that they are self-aware to some degree or at least highly bonded to their creator and resist strangers - although there are some stories of staves being inherited.



Did you say that you love Aruba its origins and cultural heritage? Than this private encounter with our columnist anthropologist is just as you. Sessions created in a gorgeous setting for visitor with special interests. Appointment is required. etnianativa03@gmail.com or Whatsapp us 297 592 2702 for a private reservation.

T DAY

Star of the day:

Jivana Cordero

Jivana is 9 years old and she is in 4th grade of Sagrado Curason elementary school in Savaneta. Jivana is a client of FAVI, the foundation for the visually impaired, and is the most outstanding student of 2021. Despite her limitation from her eyesight she managed to pass the schoolyear successfully with wonderful grades and she has received her swimming diploma also.



Jivana loves dancing and she is part of a dancing group called NGT and are working hard on preparations for their next show in December. Jivana is an artist, she loves to draw and watch movies. She also loves to write her own songs to sing. Jivana is really active and she always has an idea to keep the world beautiful and happy. Recently, Jivana received her certificate of her blind typing by FAVI. She is so proud and excited about this. FAVI is very happy with Jivana's accomplishment and that's why she is considered the best student in 2021.

FAVI stands for Foundation Aruba for the visually impaired. Their main purpose is to help everybody (from babies to elders) with a limitation of eyesight so they can happily live their life in a healthy environment. FAVI consist of different departments, such as a social department, revalidation, information department, activities and education. At the moment there are 41 children registered in FAVI that are getting special help from FAVI in school. Every kid is different and they are helped individually. When a teacher detects that a child needs extra help for example they extra help when using a computer or are in need of any auxiliary tools, than the foundation will be notified of this to provide the kid with additional guidance.

Recently, the department of education EDUCA launched a new website www.educa.favi-aruba.org, where the educator will have easy access to practice and guide children with limita-

sponsored by:





tions

The support of the community through donations to FAVI is very important. They can use all the help they can get. If you wish to donate you can do this at the following bank accounts RBC 31.36.6122 or ARUBA BANK 7024380290.

For more information go to www.favi-aruba. org.

Friday November 19th

Celebration of Children's Day at Playa Pabow

PLAYA PABAO — Saturday, November 20th, is International Children's day and here on Aruba we will be celebrating this as well. Community Center Playa Pabow, located in Oranjestad, will be hosting a special celebration for all children. This will take place on Friday, November 19th from

3PM to 8PM. Entrance is completely free.

Lots of activities await such as Waterslide, trampoline, dinojump, face painting and many more fun games. Don't forget your swimewear! There will be also great prizes you can win.





6 PM is Happy hour followed by a dance show named 'From Children to Children' presented by different dance groups and young musicians. The first 300 kids will receive a special gift. Come and enjoy an amazing day filled with lots of activities, food and drinks and entertainment for the whole family.

A special thanks goes to VNO and ATHA for their contribution to this awesome activity.

How to talk money with your parents this holiday

By LIZ WESTON OF NerdWallet

Holiday gatherings may present an opportunity to talk to your parents about important money issues, such as estate planning or longterm care. The need to discuss this stuff may feel particularly acute if you don't see your folks often or these are the first holidays you'll be together since the pandemic started.

Tread carefully, though, because these discussions can easily go wrong. Diligent preparation, the right approach and a respectful attitude can help your family tackle potentially uncomfortable subjects without ruining the holiday, advises Amy Goyer, AARP's national family and caregiving expert.

Ideally, families would talk "early and often" about issues related to aging, she says. The more remote or theoretical the topic, the easier it can be to discuss. For example, talking about how to pay for assisted living or a home health aide may be less fraught when the need is hypothetical than when your parent has just fallen down the stairs or is in the hospital.

"Finances are hard to talk about, much less in some kind of a crisis," Goyer says.

Most U.S. adults say there are obstacles when it comes to discussing important financial topics with family, according to a study published in October from financial services firm Edward Jones in partnership with Age Wave and Harris Poll. The top issues include: avoiding family conflicts (22%), trying to avoid burdening family members with their finances (20%) and being too uncomfortable to discuss these topics (18%).

If you want to talk to your parents about money, consider the following steps.

FIRST, ADJUST YOUR **ATTITUDE**

Gover bristles when people talk about having to "parent their parents" because the phrase sounds disrespectful to her. Having a superior or condescending attitude toward your parents, or trying to tell them what they should do, will just make the conversation harder, she says.

"Even though your role changes, FOCUS ON FEELINGS you are still their child, and therefore they deserve your respect," Goyer says.

Instead, research some options in advance so you can present choices to your parents rather than issuing orders. If they don't have long-term care insurance, for example, they might be able to sell



personal finance website NerdWallet.com.

Associated Press

investments or tap their home equity to pay for a nursing home stay. If they don't have an advanced directive or other estate planning documents, you could offer to help them use estate planning software or find them an estate planning attorney. If bills aren't being paid, you can offer to set up autopayments, take over bill paying or find a daily money manager who will do it for a fee.

"The point is for them to get what they want — that their wishes will be adhered to," Goyer says.

How you broach the topic will depend on your family dynamics. An indirect approach would be to mention that you read an article on the topic or saw something on TV about it, or that you're doing similar planning for yourself.

"For some people, an indirect approach is more effective," Goyer says. "For other people, they're going to see right through you and be angry that you're indirect."

Take the approach you think will work best with your parents. However you bring it up, pivot quickly to asking for your parents' perspective. It's important to listen more than you talk, especially at the beginning.

"Ask them how they're feeling about the finances, or the housework or the driving or whatever it is," Goyer says. "Do they ever feel uncomfortable? Do they ever feel

She says you could pose it as a question, such as: "'Do you ever feel like you might like to have a little bit of help to do that?'"

Ask follow-up questions and consider paraphrasing what you're hearing to show that you're actively listening (using phrases like "What I'm hearing you saying is ... "). People who feel heard are less

likely to be defensive and more likely to listen to what you have to say, Goyer says.

If your parents aren't troubled by a situation, but you are, Goyer recommends using "I" statements.

"Never start anything with, 'You need to,'" Goyer says. "Instead, say, 'I'm concerned about' or 'I want to help you.' Your role is to provide support for them."

PREPARE TO ABANDON SHIP

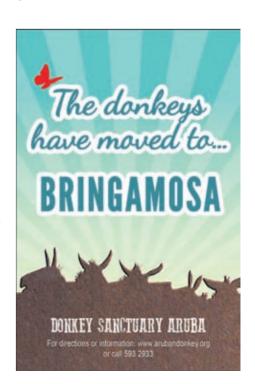
That support includes staying calm if your parents get angry, fearful or sad. Your folks may be embarrassed about their financial situation, worried about the future or resistant to the idea of needing help. Acknowledge those feelings, even if you don't agree with their viewpoint, Goyer says.

"If they are feeling insecure, or they're feeling angry at the thought of a change — are scared at the thought of a change — validate those feelings," Goyer says. "Change is hard."

But be prepared to drop the subject, at least for the time being, if tensions remain high.

"For some people, (discussing money) is fine, but for others, it's going to ruin the holiday," Goyer says. "Maybe the holiday is when we observe, and we make a plan to talk later about it."

Citation: The Harris Poll survey on behalf of Edward Jones and Age Wave was conducted from August 12-16, 2021, among 2,020 U.S. adults ages 18 and older. Results were weighted where necessary to bring them into line with their actual proportions in the population. This article is meant to provide background information and should not be considered legal guidance.





CROSSWORD By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 42 Workout 1 Brewing sites item 43 Blustery 7 Lofty poems DOWN 11 Andress 1 Rickety of "Dr. No" boat 12 Valiant 2 Memorable

person time 13 Some 3 Wagon combo puller musicians 4 Hurry 15 School 5 Greek paper vowel

16 Island 6 Strong dance wind 18 Washed 7 "You think so?" out 21 Finished 8 Ruby of 22 Refrain films from 9 Blunder mischief 10 Distress 24 Stop signal

25 Scoundrel 14 Really **26** Pod veggie 27 Clipped item 29 Easter

stoked

lead-in 30 Authentic **31** Turn to liquid 32 Winter drink 34 They're trying to get home 40 Poet

Khayyám

business

41 Store



31 "Water **16** Pay tribute to Lilies" 17 Excessive painter 19 Jacket 33 Mongrels flap 34 Marshy 20 News item area

21 Last mo. 35 Writer Tan 22 Prohibit 36 Friend of 23 Pig out Frodo

25 Shade 37 Lobed 28 Indiana organ 38 Crater team 29 Crude part shed 39 Wily

11-16

AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

11-16 CRYPTOQUOTE

HS GYI UIXB BTG KYFJ VFYIJO LEM OLTM VEYIJO, GYI LKCLGX ZLFLJV PYYB

GYITXVKS HE BOV EYXBVTHYT.

— L.U. KHYPKHFJ

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: DON'T PRAY WHEN IT RAINS IF YOU DON'T PRAY WHEN THE SUN SATCHEL PAIGE SHINES

Africa's 'Great Green Wall' shifts focus to hold off desert

By CARLEY PETESCH **Associated Press**

KEBEMER, Senegal (AP) —

The idea was striking in its ambition: African countries aimed to plant trees in a nearly 5,000-mile line spanning the entire continent, creating a natural barrier to hold back the Sahara Desert as climate change swept the sands south.

The project called the Great Green Wall began in 2007 with a vision for the trees to extend like a belt across the vast Sahel region, from Senegal in the west to Djibouti in the east, by 2030. But as temperatures rose and rainfall diminished, millions of the planted trees died.

Efforts to rein in the desert continue in Senegal on a smaller scale. On the western end of the planned wall, Ibrahima Fall walks under the cool shade of dozens of lime trees, watering them with a hose as yellow chicks scurry around his feet. Just beyond the green orchard and a village is a desolate, arid landscape.

The citrus crop provides a haven from the heat and sand that surround it. Outside the low village walls, winds whip sand into the air, inviting desertification, a process that wrings the life out of fertile soil and changes it into desert, often because of drought or deforestation.

Only 4% of the Great Green Wall's original goal has been met, and an estimated \$43 billion would be needed to achieve the rest. With prospects for completing the barrier on time dim, organizers have shifted their focus from planting a wall of trees to trying a mosaic of smaller, more durable projects to stop desertification, including community-based efforts designed to improve lives and help the most vulnerable agriculture.

"The project that doesn't involve the community is doomed to failure," says Diegane Ndiaye, who is part of a group known as SOS Sahel, which has



Women walk under filao trees planted to slow coastal erosion along the Atlantic Ocean in Lompoul village near Kebemer, Senegal, on Friday, Nov. 5, 2021.

Associated Press

helped with planting programs in Senegal and other countries across the Sahel, a broad geographic zone between the Sahara in the north and the more temperate African savanna to the south.

The programs focus on restoring the environment and reviving economic activity in Sahel villages, Ndiave said.

With the loss of rainfall and the advance of the desert, "this strip of the Sahel is a very vulnerable area to climate change," he said. "So we should have projects that are likely to rebuild the environment ... fix the dunes and also help protect the vegetablegrowing area."

On Senegal's Atlantic Coast, filao trees stretch in a band from Dakar up to the northern city of St. Louis, forming a curtain that protects the beginning of Green Wall region, which also grows more than 80% of Senegal's vegetables. The sky-reaching branches tame the winds tearing in from the ocean.

This reforestation project started in the 1970s, but many trees were cut down for wood, and work to replant them has been more recent. More trees are also planted in front of dunes near the water in an effort to protect the dunes and keep them from moving.

Fall, the 75-year-old chief of his village, planted the citrus orchard in 2016, putting the trees near a water source on his land. His is one of 800 small orchards in six communes of a town called Kebemer.

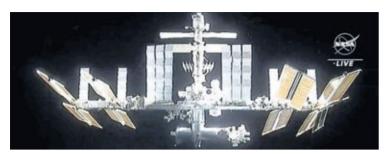
"We once planted peanuts and that wasn't enough," he said in the local Wolof language. "This orchard brings income that allows me to take care of my family." He said he can produce 20 to 40 kilos of limes per week during peak sea-

Enriched by the trees, the soil has also grown tomatoes and onions.

The village has used profits from the orchard to replace straw homes with cement brick structures and to buy more sheep, goats and chickens. It also added a solar panel to help pump water from a communal well, sparing villagers from having to pay more for water in the desert.



Russia test blamed for space junk threatening space station



In this image from video provided by NASA, the International Space Station is seen as astronauts in the SpaceX Dragon capsule undock on Monday, Nov. 8, 2021,

Associated Press

By MARCIA DUNN **AP Aerospace Writer** CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP)

 A Russian weapons test created more than 1,500 pieces of space junk that is now threatening the seven astronauts aboard the International Space Station, U.S. officials said Monday. The State Department confirmed that the debris was from an old Russian satellite destroyed in Monday's anti-satellite weapons test. "It was dangerous. It was reckless. It was irresponsible," said State Department spokesman Ned

Price. Earlier Monday, the four Americans, one German and two Russians on board were forced to seek shelter in their docked capsules because of the debris. At least 1,500 pieces of the destroyed satellite were sizable enough to show up on radar, Price said. But countless other fragments were too small to track, yet still posed a danger to the space station as well as orbiting satellites.

"We are going to continue to make very clear that we won't tolerate this kind of activity," Price said.

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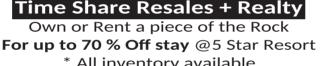
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Michael Bublé, Charlie Brown among TV's holiday headliners

By LYNN ELBER
AP Television Writer
LOS ANGELES (AP) — Supply-chain woes are this year's Grinch, threatening to steal gifts and good cheer. But TV is overstocked with holiday specials and rom-coms — including the Food Network's first movie and the rebranded GAC Family channel's Christmas debut.

Old favorites such as 1965's "A Charlie Brown Christmas" may require a measure of strategy to watch. The classic Peanuts special will air on PBS and, for a three-day window, be available free on Apple TV+.

The twist for the Food Network's film is its debut on corporate sibling discovery+ which, as with other streaming services, offers a free-trial option. Like Santa Claus scoring courtesy cookies, enjoy the gift while it lasts.

Here's a sampling of what to watch while sipping nog and nibbling on roasted chestnuts — if available on store shelves. All air times are Eastern.

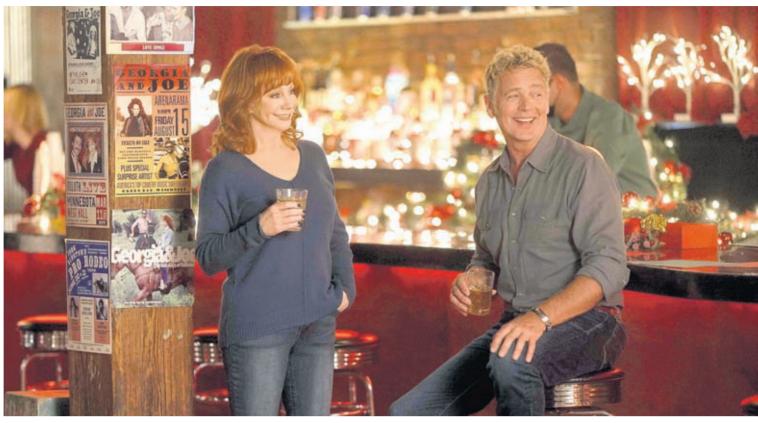
MOVIETIME

"A Rich Christmas," streaming now on BET+. A self-absorbed socialite gets a new perspective on life when she's forced to work at a family homeless shelter. Bill Bellamy and Tyler Abron star.

"Candy Coated Christmas," discovery+, Friday, Nov. 19. Molly McCook plays an executive whose life takes a detour when she visits the town of Peppermint Hollow. Ree Drummond (Food Network's "The Pioneer Woman") plays the local baker.

"A Kindhearted Christmas," GAC Family (formerly Great American Country), Saturday, Nov. 20. A woman wants to emulate her late husband's generosity, bringing joy to others and maybe to herself. Jennie Garth stars.

"A Kiss Before Christmas," Hallmark Channel, Sunday, Nov. 21. James Denton, Teri Hatcher and Marilu Henner star in the tale of a man who gets the alternate life he wished for, and tries to



This image released by Lifetime shows Reba McEntire, left, and John Schneider from the holiday special "Reba McEntire's Christmas in Tune," premiering Nov. 26 on Lifetime.

Associated Press

give it back.

"Who Is Christmas Eve?"
Bounce, 8 p.m. Sunday,
Nov. 21. A young woman
(Paige Hurd) abandoned
as an infant delves into
her past with help from her
boyfriend (Romeo Miller)
and an investigative genealogist.

"Romance in the Wilds," Fox Nation, Thursday, Nov. 25. A forest ranger and geologist (Kaitlyn Leeb, Victor Zinck Jr.) join ranks to flee a wildfire. Does love ignite? The actors also star in Fox Nation's "Christmas in the Wilds," out the same day.

"Reba McEntire's Christmas in Tune," Lifetime, 8 p.m. Friday, Nov. 26. Georgia (McEntire) and Joe (John Schneider) broke up as a couple and a singing duo years ago, but their daughter wants a reunion for charity.

"Christmas Again," Disney Channel, Friday, Dec.
3. Teenager Rowena is caught living the holiday over and over again after wishing that she could reclaim her life before her parents' divorce. Scarlett Estevez stars.

"It's a Wonderful Life," NBC, 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, and Friday, Dec. 24. Jimmy Stewart stars as a despairing man who finds value in his life with the help of an aspiring angel, Clarence.

"Our Christmas Journey," Hallmark Movies & Mysteries, 10:01 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4. Holly Robinson Peete stars as a single mom who faces an independent new chapter for her teenage son with autism and herself. Peete and her husband, former NFL quarterback Rodney Peete, are parents of a son with autism. The actor said on Twitter that "I have wanted to make a movie about an #autism family making transitions at #Christmas for a while."

"The Christmas Thief," ION Television, 8 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5. A novice private eye, home for the holidays and trying to solve burglaries blamed on Santa Claus, clashes with a local detective. Michelle Borth and Vivica A. Fox co-star.

FA LA LA LA LA

"iHeartRadio Holiday Special," the iHeartRadio app, YouTube and Facebook pages. 7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 24. Mario Lopez hosts a virtual concert including Train, Kelly Clarkson, Michael Bublé, and Pentatonix.

"CMA Country Christmas," ABC, 9 p.m. Monday, Nov. 30. Performers and songs include Kelsea Ballerini ("Santa Baby"), Gabby Barrett ("The First Noel"), Lady A ("Wonderful Christmas-

time") and Little Big Town ("Christmas Time Is Here").
"Kelly Clarkson Presents When Christmas Comes Around," NBC, 10 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 1. Clarkson hosts a special that offers music, celebrates tradition, and gives to those in need.

"Christmas Under the Stars," BYUtv, 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, and on the BYUtv app. The a cappella group Pentatonix mixes favorite tunes and carols with songs from its new holiday album, "Evergreen."

"Michael Bublé's Christmas in the City," NBC, 10 p.m. Monday, Dec. 6, and Wednesday, Dec. 22. The pop singer marks the 10th anniversary of his album "Christmas" with music and comedy.

"20 Years of Christmas with the Tabernacle Choir," PBS, Monday, Dec. 13, and Friday, Dec. 24 (check local listing for times). Brian Stokes Mitchell narrates a retrospective of performances by Kristin Chenoweth, Audra McDonald and dozens more artists.

STOCKING STUFFERS

"A Charlie Brown Christmas," now on Apple TV+ (free from Dec. 11-13) and on PBS, Sunday, Dec. 19 (check local listings for time). Is Christmas all about the goods or good-heartedness? The question unsettles Charlie Brown.

"Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer," CBS, 8 p.m. Monday, Nov. 22. A reindeer finds that being different is worthwhile in this 1964 special that's based on the Johnny Marks song and narrated by Burl Ives.

"Mary McCartney Serves It Up," discovery+, Tuesday, Nov. 23. In four new holiday episodes, the British cookbook author enjoys meatless meals with guests including her famous dad, Paul McCartney, and Oprah Winfrey.

"How the Grinch Stole Christmas," NBC, 8 p.m. Friday, Nov. 26 and Saturday, Dec. 25. Horror movie king Boris Karloff provided the voice for Dr. Seuss' infamous Grinch for the enduring 1966 cartoon.

"'Twas the Fight Before Christmas," Apple TV+, Friday, Nov. 26. A documentary about an Idaho neighborhood that became a battleground for a man with a large-scale holiday obsession and his foes, aka other homeowners.

"A Home for the Holidays," CBS, 9 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5. In the special's 23rd annual broadcast, inspiring stories of youngsters adopted from foster care are joined with performances by popartists.



On again, off again: Johnson & Knaus relationship now solid

By JENNA FRYER **AP Auto Racing Writer** BRASELTON, Ga. (AP)

Jimmie Johnson stood at the doorway of the lounge inside a team transporter casually eating from a can of Pringles. Upon noticing his arrival, Chad Knaus spun in his chair to confront the driver he teamed with for seven NASCAR championships.

"Apparently you and I need to have a discussion," Knaus said to Johnson. "I'm going back to Charlotte." "I've heard this before," Johnson laughed.

Knaus moments earlier had learned of an interview released last week in which Johnson made unintentional headlines in a longform profile for "In Depth with Graham Bensinger." Among the soundbites promoted ahead of the television program was "Johnson unveiled specifics of his rift with former crew chief Chad Knaus, which eventually eroded their relationship and forced a separation."

Johnson and Knaus won 81 races together, as well as a record-tying seven Cup championships and a record five-straight from 2006 to 2010. Their relationship had always been up and down, and Rick Hendrick famously served the two milk and cookies following the 2005 season and ordered them to stop fighting like a pair of little boys or he'd split them apart.

The breakup didn't actually come until 2018, when the crew chief was moved from the No. 48 team he'd built 17 years earlier following two-plus losing seasons. "When times got tough, Chad reverted back to the crew chief that he was when we first started," Johnson told Bensinger. "Micromanaging, explaining where I was making mistakes, what I needed to do, how I needed to work on it."

The tense relationship unraveled, Johnson claimed, at the start of the 2017 season when he informed Knaus he wanted to live in Colorado — almost 1,800 miles away from Hendrick



Seven-time NASCAR champion Jimmie Johnson stands in the doorway of the team hauler at Road Atlanta Raceway in Braselton, Georgia, Friday, Nov. 12, 2021, talking with Chad Knaus, right, his former crew chief, and Gary Nelson, team manager of the IMSA sports car Action Express Racing

Motorsports in Charlotte.

"And things started to get personal then," Johnson told Bensinger, "and him questioning where my heart was with the team and the time and effort I wanted to spend to be with the team was really kind of the starting fracture point."

Johnson's quotes published ahead of the show release made headlines in NAS-CAR but Knaus had heard nothing of the interview until asked about it during an interview with The Associated Press at the Petit Le Mans sports car race at Road Atlanta.

Johnson retired from NAS-CAR after the 2020 season and spent this last year as an IndyCar rookie and dabbling in IMSA sports cars, and Knaus is the strategist for the No. 48 Cadillac that Johnson and Hendrick Motorsports assembled to Johnson drove just two

"I mean, I thought we're fine," a confused Knaus initially responded when asked by AP.

It took several attempts to explain the context of

Johnson's comments, and then Johnson at last arrived, blindsided by the conversation he'd just entered. He explained to Knaus "a headline writer" had picked a handful of soundbites from a lengthy, in-depth interview "as clickbait, to get traction for the show," and that his remarks were about their relationship three years ago.

Knaus wasn't actually upset and a restless Johnson, after eating a second can of Pringles and then a bag of cool ranch Doritos all while standing in the lounge doorway, went looking for something else to do during the long day of waiting around at the track.

It left Knaus to now himself revisit the breakup of arguably the best driver-crew chief combination in NAS-CAR history.

run in four endurance rac- more seasons in NASCAR following the split, and Knaus was crew chief for another driver for the same length. He's now management at Hendrick and the vice president of competi**Associated Press**

"It was work, it was tough, right? I mean, we've gone through it and there was many a time we had to do maintenance on our relationship," Knaus told AP. "But every relationship needs maintenance, period, and we went through an ebb and a flow throughout our career. Even when the times were good, they weren't always good, right?"

But yet they always pulled through and both remained committed to tying Hall of Famers Richard Petty and Dale Earnhardt with seven Cup titles. They hit the mark in 2016 and even though Johnson won three of the first 13 races the next season, he and Knaus were headed toward a final breaking point over Johnson's desire to move his family to Colorado.

It's ancient history now to Knaus.

"You know, the Aspen thing, man, look, it is what it is," Knaus told AP. "It's hard from my perspective. I am older now and I am in a different place. But when I look back and look at

where I was at that point, I was in it and living it every single day and in the grind. And you can begin to feel like a single parent — the one the kid comes around for the weekend play, and you know, everything's great, but the kid doesn't want to play with them every single day.

"That's what that felt like going through that and it was challenging because (stuff) wasn't going well and you feel like you're in the storm by yourself."

Knaus now supervises the four current Hendrick drivers, among them Chase Elliott, who has not moved from his Georgia hometown. When asked what made Elliott's permanent address acceptable when Johnson could not relocate out of North Carolina, Knaus said it was situational. He pointed to a period of time when Jeff Gordon at his heyday lived in Florida without it harming his career or relationship with crew chief Ray Evernham, as well as Elliott's continued progression from rookie to 2020 Cup champion.

"It's all about the environment and when everything's going well, there's not many problems to be solved," Knaus told AP. "But if you're not running well, everything is in question. And it's a team sport and you get to a point where feel abandoned. Nonetheless, I knew he was a fantastic racecar driver and he was going to give me everything he had every single weekend. Just like I did for him."

Knaus later relocated to the Action Express pit stand to call qualifying for the No. 48 at Road Atlanta. Kamui Kobayashi qualified the car, so Johnson sat behind Knaus wearing a headset to listen to the session.

Knaus signaled for Johnson's attention.

"You good, bud?" Johnson responded.

"Well, I was until I found out you hated me," Knaus deadpanned.

The two began to laugh, both content with the current state of their relationship.





Analysis: Wilson shut out for 1st time on surprising NFL day

By ROB MAADDI **AP Pro Football Writer**

Russell Wilson was shut out for the first time in his career. Taylor Heinicke outplayed Tom Brady. Aaron Rodgers had fewer touchdowns than Cam Newton. Another Sunday was filled with upsets and unpredictability.

For the second straight week, four teams with losing records beat clubs that entered in first place or tied for first. It started with Miami knocking off Baltimore on Thursday night. Washington defeated Tampa. Carolina routed Arizona. Minnesota edged the Chargers.

Even the Detroit Lions joined in on the surprises by avoiding a loss for the first time.

Wilson made a remarkable return from a severe finger injury only to throw a pair of picks in the end zone in Seattle's 17-0 loss to Rodgers and the Green Bay Packers. Wilson wouldn't make excuses, but he was rusty after missing three games. "This could have been a big, big step for us here to get this win on the road," Wilson said. "Unfortunately,

because of my mishaps

here and there, it didn't



Seattle Seahawks' Russell Wilson is sacked by Green Bay Packers' Preston Smith during the second half of an NFL football game Sunday, Nov. 14, 2021, in Green Bay, Wis. The Packers won 17-0.

Associated Press

happen that way. I look forward to watching the tape and seeing where I can get better, where we can get better."

The Seahawks (3-6) are reeling but still have a shot to chase the third wild-card spot if they can go on a run. Rodgers also wasn't sharp in his return from COVID-19. He didn't practice all week and only joined the Packers on Saturday. The NFL's reigning MVP managed the offense well enough to lead Green Bay (8-2) to victory.

The Packers moved to first place in the NFC. They blew

home-field advantage last year, losing to Brady and the Buccaneers in the conference title game. The snow is already falling in Green Bay and no team wants to play at Lambeau Field in January.

The Buccaneers (6-3) made their road to a repeat even more difficult with a stunning 29-19 loss to lowly Washington (3-6). Brady threw two interceptions in his first six passes and the team had too many costly mistakes.

The biggest concern has to be Tampa's vaunted defense that hasn't looked that dominated Patrick Mahomes and the Chiefs in the Super Bowl. It couldn't stop Heinicke after giving up 29 points to Jameis Winston, Trevor Siemian and the Saints before the team's bye last week.

Brady's magic won't be able to overcome a defense that shaky.

"We're not showing up on Sundays," Buccaneers coach Bruce Arians said.

Perhaps the most unlikely scenario in Week 10 was Newton returning to Superman status just three days after he returned to Carolina and three months since he last played in an NFL

The Panthers signed Newton, the former face of the franchise, on Thursday and wasted no time using him. He backed up backup P.J. Walker and threw a TD pass and ran for a score in Carolina's 34-10 rout over Arizona.

Newton's return makes the Panthers (5-5) exciting and they're right in the mix for the playoffs, holding the seventh spot.

Meanwhile, the Cardinals (8-2) fell out of the NFC's top spot — they lost to

anything like the group Green Bay last month and they'll need Kyler Murray back to hold off the Rams (7-2) in the West.

There were some signs of consistency and normalcy on Sunday.

The Tennessee Titans (8-2) remained hot, beating New Orleans for their sixth straight win.

Kansas City (6-4) is back in first place in the AFC West thanks to Mahomes, who threw for 406 yards and five TDs in a 41-14 win at Las Vegas.

The Buffalo Bills (6-3) got back on track with a 45-17 win over the Jets following a 9-6 loss to the Jaguars last week.

The Dallas Cowboys (7-2) destroyed Atlanta 43-3, rebounding from a lopsided loss to Denver.

And the Lions (0-8-1) remained winless. Ryan Santoso missed a 48-yard field goal in overtime as Detroit played the Steelers to a 16-16 tie.

The Lions still have a chance to finish the season with zero wins. That would be one of the least surprising developments in an NFL season that's one of the hardest to figure out in recent years.

Djokovic beats Ruud at ATP Finals for 6th straight victory

Djokovic extended his winning streak to six matches with a 7-6 (4), 6-2 victory over Casper Ruud on Monday at the ATP Finals.

Following a two-month break after his loss to Daniil Medvedev in the U.S. Open final, which ended his pursuit of a calendaryear Grand Slam, the topthis month and won the Paris Masters.

match Roger Federer's re- seventh time — breaking tennis, and I really enjoy cord of six titles at the sea- a tie with childhood idol competition and playson-ending event for the Pete Sampras. top eight players.

an early lead at the top he fell in love with tennis 1 in the world, there is no

TURIN, Italy (AP) — Novak of the Green Group in watching Sampras when round-robin play, with 2018 champion Stefanos Tsitsipas playing Andrey Rublev

> Medvedev and Alexander Zverev won in the Red Group on Sunday as the tournament made its debut in Turin after 12 years in London.

After the match, Djokovic ranked Djokovic returned was presented with the trophy for finishing the year ranked No. 1, a feat he ac- a limit to myself at all, be-He's now attempting to complished for a record cause I still enjoy playing

In an on-court interview, the 20-time Grand Slam The victory gave Djokovic Djokovic recounted how champion said. "Being No.

he was "4 or 5 years old" and asked his dad to buy him a racket.

"Now I'm here and I've won this (trophy) seven times, one more than (Sampras) — incredible," Djokovic told the crowd in Italian. "The dream continues. I hope to play this great sport for a couple of years."

"I don't want to impose ing at the highest level,"



Serbia's Novak Djokovic kisses the trophy as ATP world best player, at the Tennis ATP World Tour Finals, at the Pala Alpitour in Turin, Monday, Nov. 15, 2021.

Associated Press

reason for me yet to think ally am in a good place at about leaving tennis. I re- the moment."